Training to Hindi typists/stenographers

†5613. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of such typists and stenographers in his Ministry/ department and subordinate offices which have not received training of Hindi typing or Hindi shorthand; and

(b) the reasons for not giving them such training so far and by when they are supposed to be given such training?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) 42 typists and 78 stenographers in the offices of the Ministry have not received training in Hindi or Hindi shorthand. Imparting training to the untrained typists and stenographers is a continuous process. The untrained typists and stenographers are nominated for training in Hindi typing and shorthand in convenient batches.

Hindi typewriters in Ministry/Departments

†5614. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of such offices under his Ministry/departments which do not have a single Hindi typewriter so far;

(b) the reasons for not purchasing the Hindi typewriters so far; and

(c) the action taken to ensure compliance of targets fixed for purchase of Hindi typewriters by the Department of Official Language in its annual Hindi programme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) Hindi typewriters are available in all the Departments of the Ministry.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) Continuous efforts are being made to achieve the targets.

Drinking water facility in Gujarat

5615. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Gujarat that have proper drinking water facility throughout the year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of villages that have seasonal difficulty;

(c) the number of villages earmarked with "No source of Water"; and

(d) the schemes to provide water to such villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per the information received from the State Government of Gujarat as on 1.4.2000, out of a total of 30269 rural habitations in the State, 293 habitations are "Not Covered", 3127 "are partially Covered" and remaining 26849 are "Fully Covered" with access to drinking water facilities.

(b) The State has also informed that 6312 habitations have seasonal difficulty.

(c) As per the information furnished by the State Government, 14928 are declared as "No source" habitations, upto 31.3.1999.

(d) In accordance with the National Agenda for Governance of the Government, the State Government of Gujarat has prepared action plans to provide drinking water to all rural habitations in five years time. This objective could be achieved, subject to availability of funds.

Use of solar energy for rural water supply schemes

5616. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Drinking Water Mission has received any proposal to use solar energy for operating rural water supply schemes;

(b) if so, when such a proposal was received;

(c) whether this proposal has been examined;

(d) whether any pilot scheme has been sought for some areas in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the status of proposals to use solar energy for rural drinking water scheimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject and schemes relating to rural drinking water supply are implemented by State/UT Governments under State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government supplements the efforts of States/